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a second DC voltage from a first DC voltage and includes a transformer. The second circuit is coupled to the secondary winding of the transformer and supplies current for the lamp. The secondary winding, input terminals of the first circuit and second circuit are coupled together such that the second circuit is provided with a voltage whose amplitude is equal to the sum of the first DC voltage and the second DC voltage resulting in a more efficient transfer of power by the circuit arrangement to the lamp.--

In The Claims:

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--1. (Amended) A circuit arrangement for operating a lamp,
[provided with] comprising:

a first circuit [- means I] for generating a second DC voltage from a first DC voltage, including [comprising]

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[-] input terminals for connection to a [supply] voltage source [which delivers] for supplying the first circuit with the first DC voltage,

[-] a switching element,

[-] a control circuit coupled to the switching element for changing the conductive state of the [rendering said] switching element [conducting and non-conducting with high frequency],

[-] a unidirectional element, and

[-] a transformer having a primary and a secondary winding[,]; and